

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Currently Amended) The closure of claim 38, 39 or 40 ~~[[1]]~~ wherein the outer surface of the spout has a plurality of outwardly extending protuberances thereon.
3. (Original) The closure of claim 2 wherein between about 10 and 30 protuberances extend outwardly from the outer surface of the spout.
4. (Original) The closure of claim 3 wherein between about 15 and 20 protuberances, more preferably 18 protuberances, extend outwardly from the outer surface of the spout.
5. (Original) The closure of claim 2 wherein the protuberances are circumferentially disposed on the outer surface of the spout.
6. (Original) The closure of claim 5 wherein the protuberances are equally spaced on the outer surface of the spout.
- 7-8. (Cancelled).
9. (Currently Amended) The closure of claim 38 ~~[[8]]~~ wherein the second portion extends inwardly and downwardly to the circular free edge.
10. (Currently Amended) The closure of claim 38 ~~[[8]]~~ wherein on mounting of the top cap to the spout, the second portion is folded back at least towards the first portion.

11. (Original) The closure of claim 10 wherein the second portion is folded back against the first portion on mounting of the top cap to the spout.

12. (Previously presented) The closure of claim 9 wherein the second portion of the annular sealing rib is frusto-conical.

13-14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) The closure of claim 39 [[13]] wherein on mounting of the top cap to the spout, the top cap sealing rib is folded back at least towards the inner surface of the top cap.

16. (Previously Presented) The closure of claim 15 wherein the top cap sealing rib is folded back against the inner surface of the top cap.

17. (Currently Amended) The closure of claim 39 [[14]] wherein the top cap sealing rib is frusto-conical.

18. (Currently Amended) The closure of claim 38 [[7]] wherein the top cap sealing member comprises an annular contact bead that on mounting of the top cap to the spout in said first position seals with the outer surface of the spout below the at least one protuberance thereon.

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) The closure of claim 40 [[19]] wherein the inner surface of the opening in the upper portion of the top cap is substantially cylindrical and extends from an upper side to an underside of the upper portion.

21. (Original) The closure of claim 20 wherein the annular sealing rib, prior to the plug member firstly entering the opening in the upper portion of the top cap, has at least a frusto-conical portion extending radially inwardly to a circular free edge.

22. (Currently Amended) The closure of claim 38, 39 or 40 [[1]] wherein the inside surface of the skirt portion of the top cap has an attachment mechanism complementary to an attachment mechanism on an external surface of the spout.

23. (Original) The closure of claim 22 wherein the complementary attachment mechanisms comprises a thread adapted to engage a corresponding thread on the external surface of the spout.

24. (Original) The closure of claim 38, 39 or 40 [[1]] wherein the plug member is located at or adjacent an end of the spout distal said opening, with an aperture between the plug member and the spout wall, the aperture being spanned by a plurality of bridge members that extend radially inwardly and upwardly from the spout to support the plug member.

25. (Currently Amended) The closure of claim 38, 39 or 40 [[1]] wherein the main closure sealing rib comprises an annular sealing rib adapted to seal with the end portion of the container, the main closure sealing rib projecting downwardly from an underside of the top portion and including a first portion which is contiguous with the top portion and has an inner surface, which inner surface lies radially inwardly of the skirt portion, and at least a second portion contiguous with the first portion and separated from the top portion by the inner surface of the first portion, the second portion extending at least radially inwardly to a circular edge, the inner surface of the first portion having an internal diameter relative to the external diameter of the end portion of the container to which the main closure is to be attached such that during attachment of the main closure with the end portion of the container, the main closure sealing rib will be engaged by the end portion of the container so folding the second portion at least towards the inner surface of the first portion of the rib to form a seal between at least an outer surface of the end portion of the container and the main closure.

26-37. (Cancelled).

38. (Previously Presented) A closure suitable for mounting onto a container, the container having an end portion defining a container opening, the closure comprising:

a main closure having:

a top portion having an aperture therethrough;

a skirt portion depending downwardly from the top portion that is attachable to the container end portion;

a main closure sealing rib that, on attachment of the main closure to a container, forms a seal with the end portion of the container;

a spout extending upwardly from the top portion, the spout defining a bore that is in fluid communication with the aperture in the top portion, an outer surface of the spout having at least one outwardly extending protuberance thereon; and

a plug member having a radially outer surface and mounted to the spout; and

a top cap mounted to the spout, the top cap having an upper portion that has an inner surface defining an opening through the upper portion, the opening being in fluid communication with the bore of the spout, a substantially cylindrical skirt portion depending downwardly from the upper portion, and a top cap sealing member extending inwardly from an inside surface of the top cap;

the top cap being relatively movable between a first position where the plug member is at least partially within the opening and the top cap sealing member forms a seal with the outer surface of the spout and at least a second position where the plug member is withdrawn from the opening; and

wherein on relative movement of the top cap from said first position towards said second position, the top cap sealing member rides up over said at least one protuberance so as to at least partially release the seal made by the top cap sealing member with said spout;

and further wherein the top cap sealing member comprises an annular sealing rib that on mounting of the top cap to the spout in said first position seals with the outer surface of the spout below the protuberances thereon, the annular sealing rib including a first portion which is contiguous with an inner surface of the skirt portion of the top cap and at least a second portion

contiguous with the first portion, the second portion, prior to mounting of the top cap to the spout, extending radially inwardly to a circular free edge.

39. (Previously Presented) A closure suitable for mounting onto a container, the container having an end portion defining a container opening, the closure comprising:

a main closure having:

a top portion having an aperture therethrough;

a skirt portion depending downwardly from the top portion that is attachable to the container end portion;

a main closure sealing rib that, on attachment of the main closure to a container, forms a seal with the end portion of the container;

a spout extending upwardly from the top portion, the spout defining a bore that is in fluid communication with the aperture in the top portion, an outer surface of the spout having at least one outwardly extending protuberance thereon; and

a plug member having a radially outer surface and mounted to the spout; and

a top cap mounted to the spout, the top cap having an upper portion that has an inner surface defining an opening through the upper portion, the opening being in fluid communication with the bore of the spout, a substantially cylindrical skirt portion depending downwardly from the upper portion, and a top cap sealing member extending inwardly from an inside surface of the top cap;

the top cap being relatively movable between a first position where the plug member is at least partially within the opening and the top cap sealing member forms a seal with the outer surface of the spout and at least a second position where the plug member is withdrawn from the opening; and

wherein on relative movement of the top cap from said first position towards said second position, the top cap sealing member rides up over said at least one protuberance so as to at least partially release the seal made by the top cap sealing member with said spout;

and wherein the top cap sealing member comprises a top cap sealing rib that, prior to mounting of the top cap to the spout, extends inwardly and downwardly from an inner surface of the top cap to a circular edge.

40. (Previously Presented) A closure suitable for mounting onto a container, the container having an end portion defining a container opening, the closure comprising:

a main closure having:

a top portion having an aperture therethrough;

a skirt portion depending downwardly from the top portion that is attachable to the container end portion;

a main closure sealing rib that, on attachment of the main closure to a container, forms a seal with the end portion of the container;

a spout extending upwardly from the top portion, the spout defining a bore that is in fluid communication with the aperture in the top portion, an outer surface of the spout having at least one outwardly extending protuberance thereon; and

a plug member having a radially outer surface and mounted to the spout; and

a top cap mounted to the spout, the top cap having an upper portion that has an inner surface defining an opening through the upper portion, the opening being in fluid communication with the bore of the spout, a skirt portion depending downwardly from the upper portion, and a top cap sealing member extending inwardly from an inside surface of the top cap;

the top cap being relatively movable between a first position where the plug member is at least partially within the opening and the top cap sealing member forms a seal with the outer surface of the spout and at least a second position where the plug member is withdrawn from the opening; and

wherein on relative movement of the top cap from said first position towards said second position, the top cap sealing member rides up over said at least one protuberance so as to at least partially release the seal made by the top cap sealing member with said spout;

and wherein, prior to the plug member firstly entering the opening in the upper portion of the top cap, an annular sealing rib extends inwardly from the upper portion at least partially across the opening to a free edge, the inner surface of the opening having an internal diameter relative to the external diameter of the plug member such that when the plug member firstly enters the opening, at least a portion of the sealing rib is engaged by the plug member and folded back towards the inner surface of the opening to form a seal between at least the outer surface of the plug member and the top cap.